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Assembly California Legislature



JEROME E. HORTON
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, FIFTY-FIRST DISTRICT

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October 7, 2002

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Marlene H. Dortch, Commission Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
CY-B402
Washington DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: FCC Proceeding 02-306

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Thank you for taking the time to review SBC Pacific Bell's application to enter the long distance market. As you know, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) voted favorably to allow SBC Pacific Bell to enter into the long distance market last month.

Union workers and California consumers stand to benefit from SBC's entry. Currently, more than 141 million Americans in twenty-three states are experiencing the benefits of increased savings, competition and better overall value. Californians want these same benefits. The Telecommunications and Research Action Center has estimated that Californians may save up to \$800 million in local, toll and long distance calling in the first year after SBC Pacific Bell enters the long distance market.

I respectfully urge you to consider all the benefits of a fully open long distance market. Not only will consumers benefit from better pricing and additional product options, but also the increase in job opportunities.

Again, I thank you for your time, effort and due diligence that this application will receive. Please keep me informed of the application's progress, and let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Jerome E. Horton
Member, California State Assembly

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